UNDERSTANDING KOREA 8

TOURISM & INVESTMENT



PYONGYANG, KOREA
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1. Tourism Resources

The Korean people boast their country's 5 000-year history, brilliant culture and picturesque landscape.

In the Democratic People's Republic of Korea can be found rich and diverse tourism resources.

Natural tourism resources include beautiful mountains and rivers, valleys, waterfalls, caves, spas, mineral water, fauna and flora. Among social tourism resources are revolutionary battle sites and other historic sites, historical relics and remains, grand monuments, unique customs and lifestyle, cultural heritage, art and culture, festivals, exhibitions, theatres, museums, zoos, botanical gardens, industrial establishments, livestock farms, orchards, etc.

The country has developed traditional forms of tourism, including extensive trips and sightseeing, and diverse themes of special tours.

2. Major Tourist Attractions

The DPRK's major tourist attractions include the capital city of Pyongyang, the popular tourist city of Kaesong, Wonsan, Hamhung, Nampho, Sariwon, Sinuiju, and Chongjin; scenic spots such as Mts Paektu, Myohyang, Kumgang, Chilbo and Kuwol; and the Masikryong Ski Resort, Ullim Falls and Songdowon.

3. Pyongyang, a Tourist Destination

The centre of the country's politics, economy and culture, Pyongyang is the hub of Korean tourism.

The capital city is located in the middle lowlands of the northwestern part of the Korean peninsula, and its name means a flat land.

In Pyongyang, often called the city in a park, there are a lot of parks, pleasure grounds, green areas and historical remains. In particular, you can see many modern monumental structures here.

4. Monumental Structures in Pyongyang

Pyongyang is home to many monumental structures with few parallels in the world.

Typical of them are the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun, Grand Monument on Mansu Hill, Tower of the Juche Idea, Monument to Party Founding, Chollima Statue, Kim Il Sung Square, Mansudae Assembly Hall, Arch of Triumph, Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt Taesong, Monument to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War, Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum, Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification and Monument to the Unified Front.

5. Grand Monument on Mansu Hill

This grand monument stands on Mansu Hill in

downtown Pyongyang.

It was built to highlight the glorious path of the Korean revolution led by President Kim Il Sung, founding father of socialist Korea, and his immortal revolutionary exploits. It was unveiled in April 1972 to mark the 60th anniversary of his birth.

On this hill the statues of President Kim Il Sung and General Kim Jong Il were newly erected in April 2012 on the occasion of the centenary of the President's birth.

Covering an area of 240 000m^2, the grand monument consists of these statues at the centre, two flanking group sculptures "Monument to Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Struggle" and "Monument to Socialist Revolution and Socialist Construction," and a large-sized stone mosaic mural "Mt Paektu" on the facade of the Korean Revolution Museum.

Here you can see a steady stream of Koreans and foreigners all the year round.

6. Tower of the Juche Idea

This tower stands on the bank of the Taedong River in East Pyongyang.

It was unveiled in April 1982 to mark the 70th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung. It was built to hand down for all ages the ideological and

theoretical exploits of the President who authored the immortal Juche idea.

It is a white granite structure, accentuating the nation's traditional architectural style. It is 170m tall, the tallest stone tower in the world.

It consists of the main body and a torch on it. It is surrounded by three-person sculptures, sub-thematic group sculptures, pavilions and fountains spouting water 150 metres into the air. The main body symbolizes the President's immortal ideological and theoretical exploits and the torch epitomizes the greatness and veracity of the Juche idea that illumines the road for mankind to follow.

Displayed at the back of the tower are the precious stone slabs sent by heads of state and government of other countries, personages and followers of the Juche idea.

7. Monument to Party Founding

The monument stands in Munsu Square in Taedonggang District, Pyongyang.

It was built in October 1995 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea to glorify the history of the WPK which has led the Korean revolution along the road of victory.

It is 50m tall, the height representing the 50^{th} anniversary of the WPK's founding, and it covers an area of 250 000m^2.

At the centre there are three tower bodies depicting a hammer, a sickle and a brush that are symbolic of workers, farmers and working intellectuals, respectively.

The round band is embossed with the slogan "Long live the Workers' Party of Korea, organizer and guide of the Korean people for all victories!" It demonstrates the single-hearted unity between the leader, the WPK and the masses.

8. Chollima Statue

The statue is located on Mansu Hill. *Chollima* means a legendary steed which can run 1 000 *ri* (400km) a day.

After the Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953), the Korean people turned out with one accord in the postwar rehabilitation campaign and socialist construction, raising the fierce flames of the Chollima movement to effect a revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction under the slogan "Let us race in the spirit of Chollima!" This movement was a nationwide campaign geared to stepping up socialist construction at the fastest possible speed by giving free rein to the working people's revolutionary zeal and creative talent in

eliminating the old and creating the new in all fields–the economy, culture, ideology and morality.

The movement resulted in a great leap in socialist construction and Chollima became the symbol of socialist Korea.

The Chollima Statue was erected in April 1961 when the movement was in full swing.

The largest and tallest of its kind in the world, the statue is 46m high and its body is made of over 2 500 granite stones of about 360 sizes.

9. Arch of Triumph

Standing at the foot of Moran Hill in Pyongyang, the Arch of Triumph was unveiled in April 1982 to mark the 70th anniversary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung. It was built in commemoration of his triumphal return to Korea; he liberated the country from the Japanese imperialists' military occupation by organizing and leading the anti-Japanese armed struggle to victory.

It is a granite structure embodying the traditional features of a multi-tiered stone tower.

The arch is 60m tall and 52.5m wide. The tallest arch in the world, it is 10m higher than its counterpart in Paris.

Embossed on two of the four pillars with carvings in relief are "1925" and "1945," the figures symbolizing

respectively the year when Kim Il Sung embarked on the road of revolution and the year when he made his triumphal return home after liberating Korea. The immortal revolutionary paean *Song of General Kim Il Sung* is engraved boldly on the walls of the arch's balcony.

10. Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum and Monument to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War

The Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum is a monumental structure built to pass down through the generations the immortal exploits that President Kim Il Sung performed in leading the Fatherland Liberation War (1950–1953) to victory and General Kim Jong Il in steering the Songun revolution.

Opened in August 1953, immediately after the war, the museum was renovated in July 2013 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of victory in the war. Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un showed close concern for the renovation project.

The museum consists of the main building, the hall dedicated to the operations for seizing Taejon and outdoor exhibitions of weaponry. It comprises more than 80 rooms.

At the large panorama hall lectures are given by DPRK Heroes and war veterans.

Beside the museum flows the Pothong River, where you can see the US armed spy ship *Pueblo* captured by Korean sailors in January 1968.

The Monument to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War was built on the bank of the Pothong River in 1993 on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of victory in the war. Dedicated to the heroes of the great years, it highlights the exploits that the heroic army and people of the country performed by defeating the US-led imperialist allied forces and defending the freedom and independence of their country under the leadership of Supreme Commander Kim Il Sung.

The monument covers an area of 150 000m^2. It consists of the entrance gate; monuments inscribed with President Kim Il Sung's handwriting and a poem; sculptures of the flag of the Workers' Party of Korea and the flag of the Korean People's Army lining up inside the gate; the main-theme sculpture "Victory" standing directly opposite to the gate; and ten sub-thematic group sculptures in between.

11. Monument to the Three Charters for National Reunification

The monument stands at the starting point of the Pyongyang-Kaesong Road.

It was built in August 2001 in reflection of the ardent desire and firm determination of the Korean people to reunify the country without fail holding aloft the three charters for national reunification set forth by President Kim Il Sung.

As it stands at the entrance to the road running from Thongil Street in Pyongyang to Kaesong, a city near the Military Demarcation Line, it symbolizes the people's desire for national reunification.

It depicts two Korean women in traditional costumes–one from the north and the other from the south–holding high the emblem of the three charters for national reunification. It is unique in architectural style and formative beauty.

Inside the tower body you can see rare stone slabs sent from the south Korean people, overseas Koreans and personages of other countries.

12. Parks and Pleasure Grounds in Pyongyang

Pyongyang is often called the city in a park.

Here you can see different species of trees and flowering plants lining up along the streets.

You can also find parks and other recreational facilities here and there. Typical examples are Moran Hill, Kaeson Youth Park, Mangyongdae and Taesongsan amusement parks, Rungna People's Pleasure Ground,

Ryongaksan Pleasure Ground, Central Zoo and Central Botanical Garden.

13. Moran Hill

Located in downtown Pyongyang and called the garden of the capital, Moran Hill is counted among the eight scenic spots of Korea.

It was named so, because it resembles a beautiful, attractive peony blossom.

Sprawling over 270 hectares, it has an elevation of 95m above sea level.

On the hill there grow about 180 species of plants and various flowers.

In spring it looks like a flower garden, and in summer, it presents verdant scenery, so attractive that the citizens regard it as their ideal summer resort.

Historical remains such as Ulmil Pavilion, Chilsong Gate, Choesung Pavilion and Pubyok Pavilion add to the beautiful scenery of the hill.

On Sundays and holidays the hill is bustling with citizens who are on a picnic.

14. Kaeson Youth Park

Inaugurated in July 1984, the Kaeson Youth Park nestles at the foot of Moran Hill.

Sprawling over 40 hectares, it has latest amusement

facilities including Disco, Z-force, Volare, Pirate and electronic recreation hall. Fountains, artificial waterfalls and green areas dot the scenery. Chongsu Pavilion, Unsa Pavilion and Moran Pavilion blend in with different species of trees like pine-nut, pine, clove and apricot.

In particular, the night view is fantastic; citizens enjoy riding on various modern machines amid dazzling illuminations.

A CNN correspondent, broadcasting live the fascinating night scene of the park, said: Your eyes are not deceiving you. This is socialist north Korea.

15. Rungna People’s Pleasure Ground

The Rungna People’s Pleasure Ground is located on Rungna Island midway down the Taedong River, Pyongyang.

The island was named so, because the weeping willows reflected on the crystal-clear water are akin to a roll of silk. Now it is home to a modern recreational facility.

Here you can find a water park, dolphinarium, amusement park and mini-golf course.

The water park and dolphinarium are up to modern standards, and the night view of the amusement park is fascinating.

Impressed by the wonderful scenery, foreigners said in the following vein.

A British tourist: The Rungna amusement park is quite amazing. I could hardly imagine that it is such a modern, wonderful park.

A Swedish tourist: This amusement park is really wonderful. It is far better than what I imagined when I was seeing the pictures of it. Indeed, I have had a pleasant time.

A Chinese tourist: In Hong Kong there are similar amusement facilities. They are too expensive. To my surprise, they are very cheap in Korea.

An American tourist: Amusement equipment is sophisticated. We do not have such a chairoplane in the US. I can see how happy the Korean people are.

16. Pyongyang, a Time-Honoured City

Pyongyang epitomizes the long history, brilliant culture, resourcefulness and talent of the Korean nation.

In and around the capital city you can see a lot of historical remains that are a million years old.

The city is one of the cradles of mankind and the birthplace of Taedonggang civilization, which ranks among the world’s five major civilizations; it is a 5 000-year-old city with a time-honoured culture.

It was the capital of Ancient Joson, the first state of

the Korean nation that existed from the early 30th century BC to 108 BC, and also the capital of Koguryo, a great power in the East that existed between 277 BC and AD 668.

The city abounds with historical remains.

17. Royal Tombs in Pyongyang

Pyongyang is home to the Mausoleum of King Tangun, the founder of Ancient Joson, and the Mausoleum of King Tongmyong, the founder of Koguryo.

18. Mausoleum of King Tangun

Tangun is the founding father of the Korean nation who built the first slave state in Korea early in the 30th century BC. The mausoleum is situated at the foot of Mt Taebak in Munhung-ri, Kangdong County, Pyongyang.

The tomb is a square, pyramid-shaped stone grave and covers an area of 45 hectares. It is divided into three sections: the mausoleum at the centre, the monument to renovation of the mausoleum and an area of stone statues.

At the back of the tomb there are three stone doors in the passage leading to the coffin chamber, each door weighing more than 1.2 ton. Preserved inside the chamber are the remains of Tangun and his wife in glass casings.

The tomb is 50m long and 22m high.

In front of the tomb you can see an altar, incense burner and sword tower, all made of stone. Stone tigers are on its four corners.

The tomb is associated with many legends about the customs of the Korean nation who revered the founder king as a mythical being.

19. Mausoleum of King Tongmyong

King Tongmyong is the founder of Koguryo, the first feudal state and a great power in the East.

It is located in Ryongsan-ri, Ryokpho District, 25km away from the centre of Pyongyang.

The tomb of the king was relocated here in AD 427, when Koguryo moved its capital to Pyongyang. It was according to an old custom.

Sprawling over 170 hectares, it is divided into the mausoleum area, Jongnung Temple area and the area of loyal supporters' graves.

The mausoleum area contains the gate, earth mound, statues of civil officials and military officers, stele, hall for memorial services and other stone monuments which boast the peculiar architecture of Korean style. Originally, invaluable artifacts were buried in the tomb, before being plundered by foreign aggressors. Inside the coffin chamber is a mural depicting lotus flowers.

The Jongnung Temple was built at the same time as

the royal tomb, as a temple for praying for the soul of King Tongmyong. Covering an area of over 37 000m^2, the temple is surrounded by a corridor which is 223m from east to west and 133m from north to south.

The area of loyal supporters' graves contains 19 graves of meritorious subjects.

The Mausoleum of King Tongmyong was designated as a world heritage site by UNESCO.

20. Museums and Exhibitions in Pyongyang

Museums and exhibitions in Pyongyang include the Korean Revolution Museum which showcases the glorious history of the Korean revolution; the National Gifts Exhibition House which exhibits presents and gifts from the Korean people, including south Korean and overseas compatriots, to President Kim Il Sung, General Kim Jong Il, the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un; the Korean Central History Museum which puts on display thousands of priceless historical remains and materials; the Korean Art Gallery which exhibits outstanding fine art works; the Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition House; the Three-Revolution Exhibition House which displays the achievements made by the Korean people in conducting the three revolutions–ideological, technological and cultural.

21. Cultural and Welfare Facilities in Pyongyang

Universities in Pyongyang include Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaek University of Technology, Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music; schools at different levels include Pyongyang Middle School No. 1, Changdok School and Kim Song Ju Primary School; bases for extracurricular education include the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace and Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace; public temples for learning include the Grand People's Study House and Sci-Tech Complex; public health organs include the Korea General Red Cross Hospital, Academy of Koryo Medicine, Pyongyang Maternity Hospital, Ryugyong Dental Hospital and Okryu Children's Hospital; cultural and art establishments include the People's Theatre, Pyongyang Grand Theatre, Pyongyang International Cinema House, Mansudae Art Studio and Korean Film Studio; welfare facilities include the Changgwang Health Complex, Ryugyong Health Complex and Munsu Water park.

22. Sports Facilities in Pyongyang

In Pyongyang there are a great number of mass sports facilities including Kim Il Sung Stadium, May Day Stadium, Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, Mirim Riding

Club, Ice Rink, Yanggakdo Football Stadium, Sports Village on Chongchun Street, Meari Shooting Gallery, Pyongyang Gold Lane, Thongilgori Fitness Centre and People's Open-Air Ice Rink.

23. May Day Stadium

Inaugurated on May 1, 1989, the May Day Stadium sits on the Rungna Island in the Taedong River, one of the renowned scenic spots in Pyongyang.

The stadium, akin to an open parachute, boasts its unique architectural style.

It is a world-class sports facility which can accommodate 150 000. It occupies a total floor space of about 200 000m^2 and has about 80 entrances to the auditorium.

The stadium served as the venue for the opening and closing ceremonies of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students and for the grand mass gymnastics and artistic performance *Arirang*, the Kim Il Sung Prize-winning world-renowned masterpiece performed by 100 000 people.

Around the stadium are the Pyongyang International Football School and more than 20 outdoor training grounds, including the folk game area, lawn pitch, tennis court and basketball court.

24. Mirim Riding Club

Situated in the Mirim area on the outskirts of Pyongyang, the Mirim Riding Club was opened in October 2013.

Sprawling over 627 000m^2, the club is provided with all conditions necessary for equestrian sports and education including riding tracks, equestrian training grounds, room for the dissemination of equestrian knowledge, rehabilitation centre, veterinary hospital and research institute for breeding.

All buildings in the club were decorated with wood to blend in with the natural landscape. It looks like a villa in the forests, with different species of trees and flowers covering the area.

25. Kaesong, a Tourist Attraction

Kaesong, located 160km south of Pyongyang, is a historical city. It was the capital of Koryo (918-1392), the first unified state of the Korean nation.

This area abounds with historical remains and relics dating back to the Koryo period.

Kaesong is near the Military Demarcation Line which symbolizes the tragedy of Korea’s territorial bisection and national division.

A world-renowned medicinal herb, Koryo *insam* originates in this area.

A railway line or motor road leads to the city, and a drive along the Pyongyang-Kaesong Road is worth trying. Midway down the road is the Sugok Hostel. Passing through several tunnels from the hostel, you will see the fossils of a dinosaur's footprints that are 180 million years old.

26. Historical Remains in Kaesong

Historical remains in Kaesong include the Mausoleum of King Wang Kon, Mausoleum of King Kyonghyo (Kongmin), Sonjuk Bridge, Monuments to Loyalty, Koryo Songgyungwan, Sungyang School, Cluster of Myong Tombs, Cluster of Seven Tombs, Manwoltae, Kaesong Chomsongdae Observatory, Kaesong Fort and Nam Gate.

You can also see the Kwanum Temple, a wooden structure built without using nails. It is noted for its unique architecture and the image of bodhisattva Kwanseium dating back to the middle period of the Koryo dynasty.

The Bell at the Yonbok Temple is numbered among the five famous bells of Korea.

Twelve historical remains in Kaesong were registered in 2013 as part of the world's cultural heritage.

27. Mausoleum of King Wang Kon

Wang Kon (877-943) founded Koryo, the first

unified state of the Korean nation.

The mausoleum nestles at the foot of Mt Songak, 6km north of Kaesong.

Covering an area of 55 000m^2, it was renovated and opened on January 31, 1994 to mark the king's 1 117th birthday.

Here you can see the tomb of Wang Kon and his portrait, stone sculptures depicting the meritorious civilian officials and military officers, fine art works portraying the Koryo people's struggle, gateway and hall for memorial services.

28. Mausoleum of King Kyonghyo (Kongmin)

As the mausoleum of the 31st king of Koryo, it is composed of two tombs lying side by side–one for the king and the other for the queen. The king designed it himself after the death of the queen and supervised its construction.

It is located 14km west of central Kaesong. It is said that the construction project lasted seven years from 1365 to 1372.

The mausoleum is divided into four sections–tombs, statues of civil officials, statues of military officers and hall for memorial services.

In the first section the tombs of the king and the queen lie side by side.

The bottom of the tombs is a dodecahedral folding screen made of granite and embossed with cloud-shaped patterns and the carvings of the 12 spirits of the terrain, and the stone sculptures of sheep and tigers stand alternately.

The coffin chamber contains murals depicting the sun, the Great Bear and the Orion's Belt on the ceiling, and the above spirits on the eastern and western walls.

The altar in front of the tombs weighs 7.2 tons and hexagonal stone posts stand on both sides.

During the occupation of Korea by Japanese imperialism (1905-1945) the tombs had been completely pillaged and at that time one corner of it was destroyed by the robbers.

The mausoleum is noted for its excellent location and it shows the level of contemporary knowledge in such fields as mathematics, astronomy, geography, masonry, sculpture and painting.

The twin tombs are of great significance in Korean history as they represent the architecture of tombs in the last period of Koryo.

They set a pattern for the royal tombs built during the feudal Joson dynasty.

29. Koryo Songgyungwan

Songgyungwan was the highest educational

institution built for the purpose of training government officials in the period of Koryo and the feudal Joson dynasty.

It is located 2km northeast of central Kaesong.

Originally, it was called the Taemyong Palace, a royal villa of Koryo built in the early 11^{th} century. Later it was remodelled as Sunchongwan (a guesthouse for foreign envoys) and then as Sungmungwan (an organ dealing with Confucian affairs). It was renamed Songgyungwan in 1308 after its predecessor Kukjagam (established in 992) was moved to the present site.

Now it serves mainly as a museum showing the history of Koryo by means of historical remains.

Covering an area of 20 000m^2, it has 12 main buildings and six auxiliary ones. The 1 000-year-old ginkgo and zelkova here were designated as living monuments.

During his May 1992 visit President Kim Il Sung said that it is a source of great pride for the nation to have the 1 000-year-old college in the country, stressing that it should be developed into Koryo Songgyungwan University as it had been the highest educational institution in the period of Koryo.

Accordingly, a new modern building for the university of light industry was put up in a traditional architectural style to the northwest of the old buildings.

30. Sonjuk Bridge

It is a stone bridge built at the southern foot of Mt Janam in Kaesong.

Inconspicuous and small as it is, the bridge has attracted public attention for long years. According to a historical record, this is where Jong Mong Ju, a loyalist of Koryo, was murdered by Ri Song Gye's group and the incident facilitated the replacement of Koryo with the feudal Joson dynasty.

Its original name was Sonji in the sense that the bridge was soaked with the blood shed by Jong, but later it was renamed Sonjuk as a legend spread that a bamboo tree grew on the spot as if proving his faithfulness.

Near the bridge you can see such relics as the Saint Stone, Monuments to Loyalty and the stone marker telling horse-riders to dismount.

31. Koryo *Insam*

Insam was named in the sense that its roots resemble a human body. Wild *insam* is called *sansam* and *insam* is what is cultivated by people.

It began to be known as Koryo *insam* since it was exported to foreign countries in the period of Koryo.

It is also called Kaesong Koryo *insam* because it has been widely cultivated in Kaesong where the climate, soil and other natural conditions are suitable for its

cultivation and the area was a commercial hub.

Its roots, leaves, stem, flower buds and fruits contain glucoside, saccharide, essential oil, amino acid, peptide, organic acid, minerals, microelements, enzyme, various vitamins (B complex, C, PP, H, etc) and flavonoid.

Insam is efficacious in improving human health and immunity, toning up the central nervous system, enhancing hematogenous functions and promoting food digestion and absorption. It has a good effect on metabolism by accelerating the biosynthesis of protein and fatty acid, lowering blood-sugar levels and facilitating biliation. It is used as a tonic for weakness, convalescence, sequela and fatigue, as well as for the treatment of anorexia, indigestion, diarrhea, chronic gastritis, marasmus, diabetes, uneasiness, insomnia, hypotension, hypogenitalism, anemia, sunstroke and hepatitis. It is particularly good in preventing cancer.

In Kaesong tourists can buy this tonic or its processed goods while looking round the fields.

32. Pagyon Falls

This 37m-high waterfall is located 25km north of Kaesong. It is known as one of the three famous waterfalls of Korea, together with the Kuryong Falls in Mt Kumgang and Taesung Falls in Mt Solak. And it is counted among the three representatives of Songdo,

along with philosopher So Kyong Dok and poetess Hwang Jin I who won fame in the 16^{th} century.

Over the waterfall lies Pagyon Pool, 24m in circumference, 8m in diameter and 5m in depth, and below it Komo Pool, 120m in circumference and 40m in diameter.

It was so named because water gathers over the waterfall before cascading down.

The panoramic view seen from the Pomsa Pavilion nearby is really wonderful.

The waterfall cascades down with great rapidity and a tremendous crash, sending up thick clouds of spray.

Surrounded by crags in the south and rocky cliffs in other directions, it presents fascinating scenery.

33. Panmunjom

Panmunjom is 8km away from Kaesong.

It is widely known as the site in which the Korean Armistice Agreement was concluded on July 27, 1953 between the DPRK and the US. Once an ordinary area linking Kaesong and Seoul, it became the focus of international attention with the start of the armistice talks.

Here you can see the monument inscribed with President Kim Il Sung’s signature on a document

relating to the country's reunification, the hall where the armistice talks were held, the hall where the armistice agreement was signed, the meeting hall of the Military Armistice Commission, the meeting hall of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, and the Thongil House and Panmun House on the north side.

27km east of Kaesong, you can see the concrete wall along the 240km-long Military Demarcation Line. The south Korean authorities had the wall built in a bid to perpetuate the division of Korea.

34. Mt Paektu

Mt Paektu, 2 750m above sea level, is the highest mountain in Korea that rises at its northern border with China.

Korean ancestors called it the ancestral mountain of the nation, saying that all other mountains in the country stretched out from it.

The Korean people believe that it represents the dignity and spirit of the nation and that its characteristics–resourcefulness, bravery and cleanness–originated from it.

The Great Paektu Mountain Range, as the backbone of the Korean peninsula, starts from Mt Paektu and it is linked with Kujae Peak on the south coast. All the main mountain ranges in Korea branch off from it.

The Mt Paektu area serves as an open-air museum which showcases the history of the revolutionary activities of President Kim Il Sung who led the anti-Japanese struggle to victory and achieved national liberation.

Here you can see the Paektusan Secret Camp, General Kim Jong Il's birthplace, and Jong Il Peak rising behind it.

Mt Paektu is beautiful, majestic and imposing. It is also noted for its peculiar topography, geology, weather conditions, fauna and flora.

The mountain is 385km away from Pyongyang as the crow flies. It takes one hour to get there by airplane.

It was registered in 1989 as an international biosphere reserve.

35. Lake Chon on the Top of Mt Paektu

Nestling on the top of Mt Paektu, Lake Chon was named so for the impression of its sublimity.

It is surrounded by over 20 peaks, 2 500m or so above sea level.

It is 9.16km^2 in area, 14.4km in circumference and 384m at its deepest.

It is home to char and plankton. Around the lake you can see alpine animals and over a hundred species of plants such as rhododendron blooming in snow.

As good as a mineral spring, the water is efficacious for health and longevity.

The air around it is rich in negative ion, mitigating the tension of your nervous system and giving you a fresh feeling.

As a crater lake, it ranks among the world's best in terms of size and beauty.

36. Lake Samji

This is a beautiful lake in Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province, in the northern part of Korea.

It is so called because there are three lakes side by side. About a million years ago it was a river, but it was blocked by lava flowing down from the volcano on Mt Paektu.

The main source of water is atmospheric precipitation and underground water, and the lake drains nowhere.

On the shores of the lake you can see group sculptures depicting the soldiers of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army who fought against Japanese imperialism.

Various species of fish such as carp and stone moroko occur in the lake and it has sandy shores. Around the lake are red deer, sable and heat cock, all registered as living monuments.

The primitive forests of the snow-capped Mt Paektu form the background of the lake.

Near the lake there are several welfare facilities including tourists' halls of a unique design, holiday camps and boating-ground.

Here you can see the Samjiyon Grand Monument depicting the operations in the Musan area which the main force of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, led by Commander Kim Il Sung, conducted in May 1939 to deal a heavy blow to the Japanese forces of aggression and inspire the people with confidence.

37. Mt Kumgang

Mt Kumgang is renowned at home and abroad.

It extends 60km north and south and 40km east and west, covering a total area of 530km^2. Located midway down the east coast of the Korean peninsula, it occupies the area of Kosong, Kumgang, and Thongchon counties in Kangwon Province.

It is a compound of all descriptions of beauties–mountain peaks, ravines, forests, waterfalls, seas, climate and legends.

The mountain, looking like a picture scroll, has 12 000 soaring peaks, of which Piro Peak (1 639m) is the principal peak, ten or so are over 1 500m high and more than a hundred over 1 000m high.

Myriads of steep peaks, fantastic rocks, soaring cliffs, deep ravines, numerous waterfalls, crystal-clear water, limpid lakes and ponds, superb scenery of seashore, rare fauna and flora–all these go well with each other to form a wonderland.

Also, there is a hot spring, a radon spring containing mineral silica. It is transparent and reacts to soap well. The temperature of water is between 37°C and 44°C.

38. Division of Mt Kumgang

Mt Kumgang is divided broadly into three sections–Outer Kumgang, Inner Kumgang and Sea Kumgang.

Outer Kumgang encompasses Piro Peak, the principal peak of the mountain, and a series of peaks extending southward and northward, and the coastal area leading to Sea Kumgang. Myriad-shaped rocks and cliffs, famous ravines, waterfalls and pools of varying sizes blend together to accentuate this section's masculine appeal.

Inner Kumgang lies in the western part of the mountain. Bordering Outer Kumgang, this section boasts its feminine charm with a chain of ravines.

Sea Kumgang is famous for its beautiful seascape and lakes. For its crystal-clear water, this section is ideal for sea-bathing and fishing.

39. Lagoon Samil

Lagoon Samil lies 10km east of Onjong-ri, the administrative unit to which Mt Kumgang belongs.

Its name is based on a legend that in olden times a king came here to have a good day but stayed for three days, mesmerized by its gorgeous view.

Crystal-clear water, craggy hills and dense forests–all these are combined to look like a picture scroll.

Also, there are Wau Islet, the site of Sason Pavilion, Tanso Rock, Muson Rock, Janggun Rock, Pongnae Rock, Ryonhwa Rock, Kumgang Gate and so on.

Here you can enjoy boating and hiking in the mountains, and take meals at the Tanphung Restaurant on the lakeside.

The lagoon is 5.8km in circumference and 9-13m at its deepest.

40. Chongsokjong

Located in the township of Thongchon County, Kangwon Province, Chongsokjong adorns the shores of the East Sea of Korea with many fantastic-shaped stone pillars.

Hexagonal and octagonal basalt pillars stretch 1 000m along the shores. These stone pillars come in all shapes–some standing or sitting upright and other lying down. Many are standing in groups and some others are

sitting alone on crystal-clear water.

According to a legend, masons worked for long years to arrange the stones as they are now.

The rocks and peaks are of myriad shapes: Sason Peak (A legend runs that four heavenly beings descended to the peak to have a good time there); Stone Bridge (A legend goes that the subjects of the Dragon King planned to build a bridge leading to their palace by using the stone pillars in Chongsokjong but gave up the project because they found these pillars so fascinating); Couple Rock standing beside the bridge; and Turtle Rock.

The sunrise and sunset over Chongsokjong are marvellous.

41. Historical Remains in Mt Kumgang

Famous historical remains in Mt Kumgang include Jongyang Temple which was named so for its sunny location; Phyohun Temple, one of the four major temples in the mountain; Podok Hermitage of a unique design which looks like hanging on a steep cliff; and the image of Myogil, the best and biggest of its kind in Korea, carved on a cliff in Manphokdong of Inner Kumgang.

42. Mt Myohyang

Mt Myohyang, located in the northwestern part of

Korea, was named so, because its scenery is wonderful and it abounds with fragrant flowers and trees.

The mountain is 128km in circumference and covers an area of 375km^2. For its natural beauty and magnificence, it is numbered among the celebrated mountains of Korea.

Here you can see many historical relics and remains, including Pohyon Temple, one of the five major Buddhist temples of Korea.

The mountain is a prime object of ecological tourism, which is home to about 1 120 species of plants, over 40 species of mammals and over 130 species of birds.

The area is not so windy nor so cold in winter.

Abbot Sosan, one of the famous priests in Korea, lived in this mountain.

Here you can also see the International Friendship Exhibition House that exhibits valuable presents sent by the people around the world to President Kim Il Sung, General Kim Jong Il, the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

It is about 150km from Pyongyang to Mt Myohyang.

The Pyongyang-Hyangsan Tourist Road was built for the convenience of tourists.

43. Tourist Paths in Mt Myohyang

There are three tourist paths in Mt Myohyang.

The first path runs along the valley south of Pobwang and Oson peaks in Sangwondong, which is the most beautiful in the mountain.

The second path extends along the ravine between Hyangno and Chonthap peaks in Manphokdong, presenting impressive, thrilling scenes.

The third route reaches Piro Peak (1 909m), the highest peak in the mountain. The peak commands a bird's-eye view of all scenic beauties–green hills in rows, meandering streams, vast stretches of land under cultivation, etc.

When it is fine and clear, you can see the Yoltusamcholli Plain, known as a granary of the country, and even the West Sea of Korea.

44. International Friendship Exhibition House

The International Friendship Exhibition House puts on display the presents sent by the heads of party and state of other countries and important personages the world over to President Kim Il Sung, General Kim Jong Il, the anti-Japanese war heroine Kim Jong Suk and Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

It is a structure of peculiar Korean architecture; it looks like a wooden building but in fact it is not; it looks like having windows but it does not have any. Light and humidity are controlled automatically. Butterfly-shaped

bells are hanging on the hips of the roof; they set off the features of traditional architecture.

The six-storey building covers a total floor space of 46 000m^2. It is divided into the main hall and halls No. 1 and No. 2.

The presents on display are so numerous that it is estimated to take about two years to observe them all.

45. Historical Remains in Mt Myohyang

In Mt Myohyang you can see many historical remains, including the Pohyon Temple, one of the famous large temples in Korea, which served as a hub for the dissemination of Buddhism; the octagonal 13-storeyed pagoda which has bells hanging at each hip and making pleasant sounds in the wind and which is noted for its exquisite artistic quality; and the 80 000 Blocks of the Complete Collection of Buddhist Scriptures which indicate the high level of the wood-block printing techniques developed by Korean ancestors.

46. Ryongmun Cavern and Songam Cave

The Ryongmun Cavern in Kujang County, North Phyongan Province, is a limestone cavern formed 480 million years ago. It is 6km long and consists of two major sections and over 30 wings. It has dozens of scenic spots including Sokhwadong (stone-flowers section),

Cholbyokdong (iron-wall section), Paekhwadong (white-flowers section), Okhwadong (jade-flowers section) and Posokdong (jewel section). It is 40m at its highest and 60m at its widest.

The Songam Cave is also something of a wonder of nature. It has more than 70 scenic spots and is divided into 16 sections including Phokphodong (waterfalls section), Kiamdong (mysterious-rocks section), Solgyongdong (snowscape section), Surimdong (forests section), Pomuldong (treasure section), Jangsudong (longevity section), Ryonggungdong (Dragon-King's-Palace section) and Phungnyondong (rich-harvest section).

47. Mt Kuwol

Located in the midwestern part of Korea, Mt Kuwol is noted for its autumnal tints in September, hence the name of Kuwol.

The mountain, sprawling over 110km^2, has routes with a total length of over 100km, scores of pavilions, observation posts and tourist paths.

The area abounds with historical remains, as well as beauty spots. They include Kuwolsan Fort, Woljong Temple, Samsong Temple (memorial services were held here for three persons–Tangun, founder king of Ancient Joson, his grandfather Hwanin and his father Hwanung) and Anak Tomb No. 3, whose murals are

representative of Koguryo for their delicate style, large size and rich contents.

It is about 100km from Pyongyang to the mountain. It is convenient to travel overland through the city of Nampho and the West Sea Barrage.

48. Mt Chilbo

Legend has it that the mountain was called Chilbo because it has seven treasures.

A pride of Korea, it unfolds a myriad of scenes–many high peaks and steep cliffs of exotic forms, deep valleys with odd-shaped rocks and dense forests on the east coast. Stone gates, caves, gorges and waterfalls of varying heights set off the scenic beauty of the mountain.

Designated as a world biosphere reserve, the mountain is inhabited by about 800 species of higher plants and hundreds of species of vertebrates. The area is also famous for its genetic diversity as it has over one hundred species of medicinal herbs including *songi* mushroom, plants and animals of high economic and academic value.

Here you can enjoy the superb mountain- and sea-scapes, and different sceneries by the season.

The mountain is divided into Inner Chilbo, Outer Chilbo and Sea Chilbo, all of which abound with historical remains.

In addition, there are Hwangjin and other famous hot springs.

49. Scenic Beauties in the Wonsan Area

Wonsan on the east coast is abundant in tourism resources; the city is famous for its picturesque seascape and, especially, the recently-built Masikryong Ski Resort. It is linked with other world-famous tourist destinations in Kangwon Province–the Thongchon area, Mt Kumgang area, Sogwang Temple area and Ullim Falls area.

According to the government policy on developing the Wonsan-Mt Kumgang area into an international tourist attraction, a master plan to this end has been mapped out.

From Pyongyang to Wonsan you can travel by train or by bus along the Pyongyang-Wonsan Tourist Road.

50. Masikryong Ski Resort

Built in December 2013, the Masikryong Ski Resort is up to international standards in terms of the number of skiing slopes (10) and their total length.

These slopes are 40-120m wide and the highest point is 1 369m above sea level. They are divided into beginners', intermediate and expert slopes.

In addition, there are open-air skating ground, snow

park, skating area for children and runs for sledging, mountain biking and horse-riding. Cableways, heliport and other facilities for skiing and accommodation provide every convenience for the comfort of visitors. The centrepiece is the Masikryong Hotel, a modern structure of a unique design that blends in with the mountainous region.

51. Songdowon

Songdowon is a scenic spot located on the seashore 3km northwest of Wonsan. It was named so because the top branches of the pine trees in the area, when viewed from above, look like surging waves.

It is numbered among the scenic spots on the east coast; waves beating upon the seashore, a beautiful sandy beach, pine groves and blooming sweet briers–all these are in perfect harmony.

The area has been developed into a resort, which is divided broadly into over ten sections including bathing beach, sightseeing area in Mt Jangdok, tourists' park and pine groves.

52. Lake Sijung

Located on the seashore between Wonsan and Mt Kumgang, Lake Sijung is ideal for sea tourism, lake tourism and medical treatment.

It was originally an inlet on the east coast, the mouth of which was blocked by sand to form the lagoon. It was registered as a living monument of Korea.

Here you can see seven islets and a 4-5m thick layer of mud on the bed of the lake. The mud contains iron sulphide, calcium chloride, magnesium, crystal hydrate, etc. For its therapeutic properties, it is effective for the treatment of the nervous system, digestive trouble, female disorder, bronchitis, dermatitis and so on.

Around the lake are sanatoria and health resorts for mud treatment.

It is also ideal for sea-bathing as there is a beautiful sandy beach on the shores of the East Sea of Korea.

53. Tourist Cities on the West Coast

The major tourist cities on the west coast are Sinuiju and Nampho.

Sinuiju is a border city on the lower reaches of the Amnok River in the northwestern part of Korea, and it is linked with Dandong of China through a bridge. It is one of the entry and exit points for tourists. Machine-building, chemical and light industries thrive in the city. Here you can also find scientific, educational and cultural establishments and historical remains. It is about 230km from Pyongyang to Sinuiju.

Nampho is a port city on the lower reaches of the Taedong River in the western part of Korea. Among the tourist attractions in the city are scenic beauties like Wau Islet, historical remains like the Old Tombs of Kangso, West Sea Barrage, factories and farms. This area is the source of Kangso mineral water and Sindoksan spring water. It is 55km from Pyongyang to Nampho.

54. West Sea Barrage

The West Sea Barrage was built across eight kilometres of wild water at the mouth of the Taedong River.

Its construction took five years from 1981 to 1986.

The barrage has three lock chambers for the passage of 2 000- to 50 000-ton-class ships, and there are railway tracks, motorway and sidewalk on it.

With the construction of the barrage, bright prospects were opened for solving the problem of the supply of industrial and drinking water and for irrigating the area on the west coast. It was also helpful in increasing cargo and traffic capacity.

Before the barrage was built, people travelled on a 200km-long roundabout road from Nampho to Unnyul. Now the distance is only 8km. It added beauty to the scenery on the lower reaches of the Taedong River.

55. Mural Tombs in Nampho Area

The Nampho area is home to the Old Tombs of Kangso and the Mural Tomb in Tokhung-ri, both of which were registered as world cultural assets by UNESCO.

The Old Tombs of Kangso, located in Sammyo-ri, Kangso District, are the mural tombs of Koguryo dating back to the mid-7th century. Among the 100-odd mural tombs of Koguryo unearthed in Korea, these are most famous, especially for the paintings of four guardians–Paekho (white tiger), Jujak (red phoenix), Hyonmu (tortoise and serpent) and Chongryong (blue dragon). The painting of white tiger ranks among the world-renowned masterpieces.

The Mural Tomb in Tokhung-ri, Kangso District, was built in 408 during the reign of King Kwanggaetho, the 24th king of Koguryo. Inside the tomb can be found over 600 letters providing a clue as to the year of its construction and murals affording a glimpse into the powerful state of Koguryo. Among the murals is a painting of a scene in which the owner of the sepulcher meets governors of 13 counties during his tenure of office, and other paintings delineate warriors and noblemen.

56. Pyongyang Golf Course

The Pyongyang Golf Course nestles on the shore of

Lake Thaesong, covering an area of about 1 200 000m^2.

The golf course consists of 18 sections, which are linked with one another along the shore. It can accommodate more than a hundred people a day. Inside, there are such public amenities as restaurant, shop, sauna and lounge.

Also, there is a golf training centre with 30 lanes beside the Sosan Hotel on Chongchun Street, Pyongyang. It is suitable for beginners or others who cannot afford time to go to the golf course at the lake.

57. Attractions in Hamhung Area

Located near the Hamhung Bay on the east coast, Hamhung is one of the major industrial and port cities in the DPRK.

The city has large chemical, machine and textile factories and the Port of Hungnam.

It is home to many historical remains and living monuments including the Hamhung Fort dating from the period of Koryo (918-1392); Sonhwa Hall used as the main building of the Hamgyong Provincial Government during the feudal Joson dynasty (1392-1910); Ryangchon Temple, one of the biggest and oldest temples in Korea; and a 2 000-year-old gingko tree there.

Also, there is the Majon Pleasure Ground sprawling over a sandy beach.

The bathing resort in Majon is famous for its white sand and crystal-clear water. The beach is not so deep and is 50-100m wide.

It is over 300km from Pyongyang to Hamhung.

58. Diverse Themes of Tours

The DPRK has developed a wide range of tours; mountain-hiking tour, plane fan tour, train tour, architecture tour, sports tour, business tour, Taekwon-Do tour, etc.

Among the tours on cultural themes are visits to the folklore street in Sariwon, South Hwanghae Province, and to the historical remains in Kaesong, tasting traditional food and experiencing folk customs. In addition to spa tour in the Onchon area, there is plane fan tour, in which you can see various models of old aircraft, taking a photograph of them and flying in the air. Mountain-hiking tour involves pitching tents and cooking dishes in Mts Myohyang and Kumgang. Surfing tour requires courage and skill, and sports tour involves competing with Korean sports fans in marathon, ski, hockey, football and other events. Business tour is for the foreigners who are interested in investment and joint-venture cooperation; it involves interviews, visits and explanatory meetings.

59. Travel Services

Travel services in the DPRK include the National Tourism Administration, Korea International Travel Company, Korea International Youth Travel Company, Korea International Sports Travel Company, Korea International Taekwon-Do Travel Company, Paektusan Travel Company, Myohyangsan Travel Company, Chilbosan Travel Company, Wonsan Travel Company and Rason International Travel Company.

The National Tourism Administration is the supreme government organ in the field of tourism.

The Korea International Travel Company is the largest of its kind in the country, which was founded in August 1953.

It receives tourists from China, Russia, Southeast Asia, Europe and other parts of the world, and offers them necessary services according to various programmes. It is also responsible for drawing up programmes for such special tours as cultural tour, sports tour and ecological tour, in addition to the ordinary tours like visits and sightseeing.

It is staffed with guides who can speak English, Chinese, Russian, Japanese, German, Spanish, French and other languages. It has modern vehicles, traditional restaurants and souvenir shops.

Its offices are in Beijing, Shanghai, Dandong, Yanji,

Shenyang and Jian of China, Khabarovsk of Russia, Berlin of Germany and Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia.

60. Tourism Programmes

Typical tourism programmes include four-days-and-three-nights trips (Pyongyang, Kaesong and Mt Myohyang), six-days-and-five-nights trips (Pyongyang, Kaesong, Mt Myohyang, Nampho and Mt Kuwol), eight-days-and-seven-nights trips (Pyongyang, Kaesong, Mt Myohyang, Nampho, Wonsan and Mt Kumgang) and 13-days-and-12-nights trips (Pyongyang, Kaesong, Mt Myohyang, Mt Paektu, Mt Chilbo, Hamhung, Nampho, Wonsan and Mt Kumgang).

Projects are underway to develop tourist attractions at international standards and devise new programmes.

61. Tourism Prospects

The DPRK is directing close concern to developing the tourism industry, viewing it as a key propellant for the building of an economic giant and the betterment of the people's livelihood.

Projects for the development of tourist attractions and new concept products are gaining momentum.

They include the Wonsan-Mt Kumgang International Tourist Zone, Chongsu Tourist Development Park in North Phyongan Province, Sinphyong Tourist

Development Park in North Hwanghae Province and Onsong Island Tourist Development Zone in North Hamgyong Province.

Among the infrastructure improvement projects are those for the renovation of existing hotels and construction of new ones, and construction of tourist roads and service centres. Plans for launching new air and sea routes are afoot. Efforts are being made to introduce modern traffic means and improve hotel service.

Tourism experts are being trained at the Pyongyang University of Tourism and other educational institutions.

The government welcomes tourists coming to the country in goodwill and foreign investment in tourist attractions and infrastructure construction.

62. Modes of Investment

Investment in the DPRK is generally divided into contractual and equity joint ventures, exclusive investment in special economic zones and other areas, compensatory investment and BOT.

Under relevant laws of the country corporate bodies and individuals from other countries are allowed to establish and operate contractual or equity joint ventures with institutions, enterprises and organizations of the DPRK and within its territory.

The key objectives of joint venture are to produce exportable and high-tech products and develop tourism and other service industries.

The government encourages investment for the provision of modern equipment and latest technology to the sector of infrastructure construction and for the production of goods with an international competitive edge.

63. Environment for Investment

To promote economic cooperation with other countries of the world is the consistent policy of the government of the DPRK.

The country provides an environment favourble for foreign investment in political, legal, economic, social and cultural aspects.

64. Legal Environment

The DPRK has laid a sound legal foundation to guarantee the legitimate rights and interests of foreign investors.

Article 37 of Chapter II of the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK stipulates: “The State shall encourage institutions, enterprises and organizations in the country to conduct equity or contractual joint ventures with foreign corporations and individuals, and to establish and operate

enterprises of various kinds in special economic zones."

With the promulgation of the Law on Joint Venture in 1984, the government allowed foreign direct investment in the form of joint venture.

In the 1990s it built the main legal framework for attracting foreign investment by adopting, amending or supplementing over 20 relevant laws and regulations including the laws on foreign investors, foreign enterprise and contractual joint venture.

By concluding many bilateral agreements on the encouragement and protection of investment and on the prevention of double tax on income, it has provided an inter-governmental guarantee for encouraging foreign investment and protecting the property and interests of investors.

It pays constant concern to amending and supplementing legislation with the aim of improving the conditions for foreign investors' business activities and simplifying the procedures for their investment.

65. Legal System for Special Economic Zones

The government of the DPRK attaches importance to special economic zones in improving external economic relations. Following the establishment of such special economic zones as the Rason Economic and Trade Zone, Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone and

Kumgangsan Special Zone for International Tourism, it took a series of steps to set up special economic zones in Sinuiju in North Phyongan Province and over 20 economic development parks in other parts of the country.

It is also adopting proactive legal measures to guarantee the smooth development and operation of the above special economic zones and updating relevant laws and regulations as required by the developing reality.

The country's legal system for special economic zones consists of domestic and international laws.

66. Laws Related to Special Economic Zones

The laws concerning special economic zones include the Law on the Rason Economic and Trade Zone, Law on the Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone, Law on the Kumgangsan Special Zone for International Tourism and Law on Economic Development Parks.

The Law on the Rason Economic and Trade Zone was adopted in 1993 with a view to developing the zone into a hub of international transit transport, trade, investment, banking, tourism and services.

The Law on the Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone was adopted in 2011 for the purpose of developing the zone, which is located on the lower

reaches of the Amnok River flowing between the DPRK and China, into a centre for IT, light industry, agriculture, commerce and tourism.

The Law on the Kumgangsan Special Zone for International Tourism was adopted in May 2011 with a view to developing Mt Kumgang into a world-class tourist attraction.

The Law on Economic Development Parks was promulgated in May 2013 for the purpose of setting up economic development parks in provinces and developing them as regional bases that render a contribution to promoting economic cooperation and exchanges with other countries and developing the national economy.

67. Economic Environment

The DPRK has built up foundations and potentials for the balanced development of economic sectors such as heavy industry (metallurgy, mining, machine-building, electronics, ship-building and building materials), light industry (food processing, textile, clothes and shoes), agriculture, fishing and forestry.

It set forth the five year strategy for national economic development, the goal of which is to lay the foundations for the sustainable development of the country's economy by reenergizing the overall national

economy and ensuring a balance among economic sectors. It is making great efforts to update economic sectors, especially electric power, coal-mining and metallurgical industries, and rail transport.

The electric power, fuel and metallurgical industries are thriving on the basis of the country's abundant resources.

68. Infrastructure for Business Activities

The DPRK has developed a relatively advanced level of infrastructure for business operation–power and water supply, roads, railways, harbours and telecommunications.

69. Labour Force

The DPRK enforced the universal 11-year compulsory education in 1972 and promulgated the law of the Supreme People's Assembly on introducing the universal 12-year compulsory education in September 2012.

Accordingly, all the people at ages 5-17 receive general secondary education for 12 years; one-year preschool education, five-year primary school, three-year junior middle school and three-year senior middle school.

Therefore, the labour force of the country has attained relatively high standards.

70. Personnel Training for Enterprise Management and Technological Development

The government of the DPRK has put the focus of personnel training on enterprise management and technological development. In the country a sufficient number of staff is available, who can actively cooperate with foreign investors in various economic sectors.

In particular, there is a large contingent of IT experts.

71. Access to Consumer Market

The DPRK is surrounded by China, Russia and Japan, so it has 600 million consumers within a radius of 1 000km and 1 500 million within a radius of 2 000km. Moreover, the domestic demand is steadily increasing as the citizens are getting better off.

72. Kind and Rate of Tax for Foreign-Invested Enterprises

The corporate income tax and other taxes levied on foreign-invested enterprises are very low and their kinds are not so many.

Taxes for these enterprises include corporate income tax, turnover tax, business tax, property tax, resources tax, urban management tax and vehicle use tax.

The rate of corporate income tax is generally 25% of the settlement profit. It is 14% in special economic zones

and 10% in such priority sectors as cutting-edge technology, infrastructure construction and scientific research.

Tax is not imposed on the property, infrastructure construction and operation of public facilities by the infrastructure construction enterprises receiving preferential treatment, and priority in winning the right to management is given to the highly profitable businesses, especially the ones that specialize in tourism and hotel operation.

As part of a measure to ensure a favourable environment for foreign investors, the government has concluded agreements with other countries to prevent double income tax.

73. Promotional Measures for Foreign Investment and Business Activities

The promotional measures adopted by the government of the DPRK for foreign investment and business activities concern the proportion of investment, independent right to export and import, independence in business activities, right to use forex and permission of foreign currency remittance.

Foreign investors are allowed to set up businesses entirely through their contribution in special economic zones and other designated zones. As for equity and

contractual joint ventures the rate of contribution by foreign investors is not restricted in all the zones. This rate is determined through consultations between them and Korean enterprises.

Foreign-invested enterprises are independent in bringing equipment and materials at the stage of their establishment and in importing them and exporting products at the stage of management. They are permitted to go through entry and exit procedures without obtaining a licence for export and import.

They are also independent in deciding the mode of their management and conducting business activities under relevant laws and regulations.

They are allowed to open their own forex accounts in exchange banks of the country, and can freely remit foreign currency when importing equipment, furnishings and materials, and at the time of profit distribution and dissolution.

74. Investment Projects to Be Encouraged, Restricted or Forbidden

The government of the DPRK actively encourages investment in such fields as scientific research, development of new, cutting-edge technology, infrastructure construction, production of goods with an international competitive edge, and secondary or tertiary

processing of underground and other resources.

The foreign-invested enterprises that are engaged in these fields are provided with preferential treatment in the application of corporate income tax, land use and loan payment.

The government restricts investment in the businesses that are backward in equipment and production processes, and in the service, garment-processing and other businesses built for the purpose of selling manpower.

It forbids investment in the businesses that might threaten the security of the country and impair its interests, those that are not environment-friendly or hamper the growth of animals and plants, those that might injure human health, and those that are built for the purpose of exporting underground and other resources as they are.

75. Special Economic Zones

The DPRK has such central economic development zones as the Rason Economic and Trade Zone, Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone, Wonsan-Kumgangsan International Tourist Zone comprising the Kumgangsan Special Zone for International Tourism, and Sinuiju International Economic Park, as well as ten-odd local economic development parks including the Amnokgang Economic Development Park.

76. Rason Economic and Trade Zone

This zone is in the northern tip of the country, the DPRK's first special economic zone.

As it is situated in a delta bordering China and Russia on the lower reaches of the Tuman River, the zone is a strategic point linking Northeast Asia, Europe, Japan and America.

The transportation route using the trans-Siberian railways of Russia via the Rason area is 15 or 17 days shorter than the one from Japan to Europe via the Suez Canal.

Towards the end of the 1980s some experts of different nationalities came up with a plan for establishing an economic zone along the Tuman River, calling it Golden Triangle.

The government of the DPRK proclaimed the establishment of the Rason Economic and Trade Zone in December 1991. It provides favourable conditions for promoting cooperation and exchanges in the economy, trade, science and technology among the countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

77. Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone

This is a special economic zone comprising Hwanggumphyong and Wihwa islands on the lower reaches of the Amnok River flowing between the

DPRK and China.

The Hwanggumphyong area sprawls over 14.5km^2 and the Wihwado area about 40 km^2.

The Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado area lies between Sinuiju and Dandong, a border area having the lion's share in economic exchanges and trade between the two countries. It is linked with the Asia-Pacific region by sea, with inland China by land and with Russia and Europe via Manchuria in China, by rail.

For the purpose of expanding economic and trade relations with China and Northeast Asia and, furthermore, with many other countries of the world by developing this area with great geopolitical advantages, the government of the DPRK established the Hwanggumphyong-Wihwado Economic Zone in June 2010.

This zone will serve as a hub of IT industry, light industry, agriculture, commerce and tourism.

78. Kumgangsan Special Zone for International Tourism

This zone was established in April 2011.

The aim of its establishment is to develop Mt Kumgang into a world-famous special tourist destination.

79. Laws and Plans for Setting Up Economic Development Parks

The Law of the DPRK on Economic Development Parks was adopted on May 29, 2013 as decree No. 3192 of the Presidium of the Supreme People’s Assembly. And on November 21, 2013, decree No. 3450 of the Presidium of the SPA was adopted, announcing that 13 economic development parks would be set up in eight provinces. Later, the establishment of six more development parks was promulgated. In April 2015 another decree of the Presidium of the SPA was issued on the establishment of the Mubong Special Zone for International Tourism in Samjiyon County, Ryanggang Province, in the Mt Paektu area.

Long-term plans are being drawn up to ensure that these zones maintain close ties with provinces concerned as suited to their economic and natural features, and to improve economic, trade and transport relations with other countries.

80. Sinphyong Tourist Development Park

Located in Sinphyong County, North Hwanghae Province, this development zone is projected to cover an area of 8.1km^2.

It has favourable traffic conditions because it lies midway down the Pyongyang-Wonsan Tourist Road

connecting the capital city with Wonsan in Kangwon Province, which is being built into an international hub of tourism.

It is 120km from the development zone to Pyongyang, 75km to the Port of Wonsan, 142km to Sariwon, the seat of North Hwanghae Province, 8km to the township of Sinphyong County and 30km to the Jongbong Station in Singye County, the nearest railway station from the zone.

On the Pyongyang-Wonsan Tourist Road there is a lay-by in the scenic place on the lower reaches of the Tohwa Stream joining with the Nam River. And a sightseeing area built by the local people in the province lies between the development zone and the stream.

The development zone will serve as a base for sightseeing, recreation, sports and other various tourist activities in the beauty spot known as Sinphyong Kumgang.

81. Manpho Economic Development Park

Located in Manpho, Jagang Province, this development park will cover an area of about 3km^2.

Nearby can be found Manpho, Wiwon and Junggang bridges, all bordering China. The Manpho border station is connected with the Pyongyang-Manpho, Manpho-Hyesan and other railway lines leading to the east and

west coastal areas. Opposite to the Amnok River is the Jian railway station in Jilin Province, China, which is directly linked with Changchun via Tonghua.

You can also see the Jangjagang and Manpho Yonha power stations nearby, and the Amnok River is the development zone's biggest source of water.

It will be characterized by intensive economic development with the main stress put on agriculture, tourism and trade.

82. Amnokgang Economic Development Park

Located in Uiju County, North Phyongan Province, the development park will cover an area of about 6.3km^2.

An island area on the Amnok River, it is dozens of metres away from the Chinese section of the river. It is also within hailing distance of the trading port in Sinuiju, bridge and railway station on the border.

Its main source of industrial and drinking water is the Amnok River.

It is 210km from Uiju County to Pyongyang.

The focus of the development project will be on modernizing agriculture and expanding tourism and trade.

83. Chongsu Tourist Development Park

Located in Sakju County, North Phyongan Province,

the development park will occupy an area of about $1.4km^2$.

It is 48km from the development park to the township of Sakju, the seat of the county, 56km to Sinuiju and 8km to Changsong by sea.

The freight and passenger transport lines via Lake Suphung are between Suphung and Pangsan and between Suphung, Pyokdong, Changsong and Chosan. The Sinuiju-Kanggye Road runs across Pangsan-ri and Chongsong Ward.

Power stations are nearby.

In the development zone will be built cultural and recreational facilities, folk village, edible herb- and wood-processing plants, spring water plant, *insam* liquor distillery and research institute for fish farming techniques.

84. Hyondong Industrial Development Park

Located in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, the development park will cover an area of about $2km^2$.

It is 4km away from the Port of Wonsan and 10km away from the Pyongyang-Wonsan Tourist Road, and it adjoins the Wonsan-Kumgangsan Road.

It will derive its supply of power from the hydropower stations in the province.

It will be a hub of IT, light industry and

production of souvenirs for tourists and hotel fittings, playing an important role in promoting economic exchanges with other countries in the Asia-Pacific region and developing tourism in the Wonsan-Kumgangsan area.

85. Hungnam Industrial Development Park

Located in Haean District, Hamhung, South Hamgyong Province, this development park will cover an area of about 2km^2.

As the country's hub of chemical industry, Hamhung has such chemical giants as the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex, February 8 Vinalon Complex and Hungnam Pharmaceutical Factory. It also has the Ryongsong Machine Complex and factories in timber, textile and other sectors.

The development park is 500m away from the Port of Hungnam, 15km away from the Wonsan-Hamhung Road and 12km away from the Pyongyang-Tumangang railway line.

It will render services to modernizing the industrial sector of the province and expanding export by developing the chemical, pharmaceutical, building-materials and machine-building industries as well as bonded exports-processing industry via the Port of Hungnam.

86. Pukchong Agricultural Development Park

This development park is located in Pukchong County, South Hamgyong Province, and its total area is projected to be about 3km^2.

Since olden times the region has been famous for apple cultivation. The accumulated temperature above 10°C is 2 500°C to 3 100°C. The temperature of 10°C or above is maintained for 170 to 180 days a year and the duration of sunshine is 7 to 8 hours a day on average. In other words, its geographical, climatic and soil conditions are optimal for fruit cultivation. Now the county has an orchard area of dozens of square kilometres and solid foundations for fruit processing.

The development park is 113km away from the Port of Hungnam, 112km away from the Port of Tanchon and 11km away from a station on the Pyongyang-Tumangang railway line. The Pyongyang-Chongjin Road runs through the zone.

It will make a contribution to improving the country's pomiculture and export of organic agricultural produce by putting the main emphasis on fruit cultivation and processing, production of Koryo medicines, processing of wild fruits and edible herbs, and livestock farming and developing them in close combination with tourism.

87. Orang Agricultural Development Park

Located in Orang County, North Hamgyong Province, this development park is projected to cover a total area of about $4km^2$.

The county has favourable conditions for agricultural production on the east coast, and the rice and fruits from it have a peculiar taste.

Near the development park is Lake Jangyon, a natural lake that sprawls over $7.73km^2$ and is 39m deep, and the East Sea of Korea that is abundant with marine resources.

It is 70km away from the west port in Chongjin and 8km away from the Orang Station on the Pyongyang-Tumangang railway line, and it adjoins the Pyongyang-Hamhung-Chongjin Road.

Nearby is a hydropower station on the Orang Stream.

The development plan involves conducting research into and producing the seeds of crops and breeds of domestic animals and supplying them to relevant units in the province, producing greenhouse vegetables and flowers, and exporting *songi* mushrooms and edible herbs to Japan and other neighbouring countries and even Europe. Aquaculture will be developed in the above lake and the sea, and marine products will be processed in the development park. Operation of hotels, production

and sales of souvenirs, production and export of processed goods are included in the plan.

88. Onsong Island Tourist Development Park

Onsong Island is in Onsong County, North Hamgyong Province. As it is near the Chinese section of the Tuman River, the island will be ideal for the outflow and inflow of people and materials if a border transit point is opened by mutual agreement between the DPRK and China.

The development park will cover an area of about 1.7km^2.

It is within easy reach of the Nanyang-Tumen border transit point and 40km away from the Sambong-Kaishantun border transit point.

Nearby are the Onsong Station, Nanyang border station and Pyongyang-Onsong railway line leading to the east and west coastal areas.

In the development park will be built golf course, swimming pool, racecourse, traditional restaurant and other service facilities for the convenience of foreign tourists.

89. Songnim Export Processing Park

Located in Songnim, North Hwanghae Province, this park will cover an area of about 2km^2.

It is 6km away from the Pyongyang-Kaesong Road,

2km away from the Songnim Station and about 20km away from the Port of Nampho. About 2km away from it is the Port of Songnim where foreign cargo vessels can anchor on the shores of the Taedong River.

From Sariwon, the provincial seat, it is 35km away by rail and 41km by car, and from Pyongyang it is 43km by car.

Businesses in the processing park will engage in the processing and assembling of the raw and other materials imported through the ports of Songnim and Nampho, production and processing of pig iron, steel and rolled steel at the Hwanghae Iron and Steel Complex, and secondary and tertiary processing of domestic and foreign materials and their export, warehousing and freight transport for the normal operation of industrial enterprises, and bonded processing at the factories in Songnim and Sariwon.

90. Chongjin Economic Development Park

Located in Songphyong District, Chongjin, North Hamgyong Province, in the northern part of Korea, this development park will cover an area of about 5.4km^2.

In Songphyong District are the Port of Chongjin, Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Complex, the largest pig iron, steel and rolled steel producer in the country, and Chongjin Thermal Power Station. It is surrounded by

industrial establishments including machine and chemical fibre factories and bus plants. Within easy reach of the district are the railway line from Pyongyang to Khasan in Russia and another from Chongjin through Namyang to Tumen in China.

Concentrated in the city of Chongjin are educational and scientific research institutions such as Chongjin University of Mining and Metallurgy.

The development park will be a hub of economic cooperation in Northeast Asia; the focus of the development plan is put on promoting the transit transport of Chinese and Russian goods through the Port of Chongjin while boosting the production, processing and export of metals, machines, building materials, electronics and light industrial goods as the main buttresses.

91. Hyesan Economic Development Park

Located in Hyesan, Ryanggang Province, this development park will cover an area of about $2km^2$.

You can see the Hyesan-Changbai border bridge nearby and an advanced road network. The development park is favourable for the passage of people and the transport of goods.

It adjoins Lake Samsu and is about 60km away from the Naegok Hot Spring in Pochon County and about

110km away from the Mt Paektu area that is being developed as a tourist zone.

The Hyesan Youth Station leads to Pyongyang, Sinuiju and Tumangang railway stations.

On the shore of the lake will be built an international service centre for tourism and amusement, and on the hilly area a modern base for light industrial production and bases for the production of machinery and processing that will help towards developing mining and forestry in the province.

For the present, priority is given to the development of export-oriented processing and assembling, and also to creating a profitable industry for processing the province’s rich underground resources.

The development park offers a bright prospect for connecting the tours of the Mt Paektu area, Mt Chilbo area, Pochon Hot Spring and Lake Samsu, and for developing tourism in the long snowy season.

In addition, a modern base for producing Koryo medicines through the cultivation of medicinal herbs and their processing will be built.

92. Waudo Export Processing Park

Located in Waudo District, Nampho, this park will occupy an area of about 1.5km^2.

It is near the West Sea Barrage where the West Sea

of Korea and the Taedong River converge, and is 10km away from the Port of Nampho, an international trading port leading to China and Southeast Asia.

It is within easy reach of Pyongyang and central Nampho where industry booms. It will set an example in export-oriented processing and assembling with the main stress on bonded processing, order processing, order assembling and compensatory trade based on favourable seasonal conditions and abundant supply of manpower.

After the completion of the pilot construction project, the scope of development will be expanded to the east of Jindo in Waudo District.

A long-term plan has been drawn up to build a large-scale economic development park for banking, tourism, real estate dealing and foodstuff processing in Nampho and the area of the West Sea Barrage.

93. Wiwon Industrial Development Park

Located in Wiwon County, Jagang Province, this development park will cover an area of about 3km^2.

It lies close to the Wiwon Power Station, the Manpho Yonha Power Station and the Wiwon, Manpho and Junggang border passages leading to Jilin Province, China.

It will serve as a modern industrial base for the secondary and tertiary processing of the abundant

mineral and timber resources and their export.

The development plan also includes developing freshwater fish farming in the Wiwon Reservoir and establishing a research base for sericulture in Jagang Province in keeping with the local tradition.

The mineral water in Kobo-ri, Wiwon County, is efficacious for the treatment of gastritis, hepatitis, duodenal ulcer and female disorder, and the mud for the treatment of stomach disorder and neurosis.

The industrial establishments around the development park will take part in bonded processing, and investors will be interested in livestock farming in the rural areas nearby.

94. Chongnam Industrial Development Park

Located in Chongnam Ward, South Phyongan Province, this development park will occupy an area of about 1km^2.

In the ward is the Anju Area Coal-mining Complex, the leading coal producer in the province.

The development park is 80km away from the Port of Nampho, 15km away from the Pyongyang-Sinuiju Road and 3km away from the nearest railway station.

The development plan focuses on the production of liquefied gas using lignite that is abundant in the area, development of chemical industry, production of

consumer goods using chemical materials and their export.

95. Sukchon Agricultural Development Park

Located in Sukchon County, South Phyongan Province, the development park will cover an area of about $3km^2$.

It is 1.8km away from the Sinuiju-Pyongyang Road, 7.8km away from the Pyongyang-Hyangsan Tourist Road, 3.8km away from the Sukchon Station and 20km away from Pyongyang.

As the development park adjoins the Kaechon-Lake Thaesong Waterway, no pump is needed for irrigation and underground water is used as drinking water.

It will become a hub of agricultural research, development, production and processing, in which the production cycle is introduced in line with modern trends–cultivating rice, corn, fruits and cocoons by organic farming methods; building bases for seed selection, breeding and processing, research institutes for organic faming, organic fertilizer and agro-chemicals plants; and expanding livestock farms and processing plants.

Processing will be developed at the apatite mine and other industrial establishments nearby, and

effective use made of the medicinal herbs abundant in the province.

If the construction of the development park goes smoothly at the experimental stage, its scope will be expanded according to the demand of investors.

96. Unjong Cutting-Edge Technology Development Park

Located in Unjong District, Pyongyang, this development park will cover an area of about 2.4km^2.

The major road and railway lines run through the Unjong Science Park. The development park is within easy reach of Pyongyang and it is 60km away from the Port of Nampho and about 200km away from the border city of Sinuiju.

The Unjong Science Park is home to the State Academy of Sciences–research institutes for basic and applied sciences, IT service bases and the University of Sciences.

The development park will be divided into two sections.

The first section (about 1.4km^2) concerns management and service, IT, bioengineering, materials and equipment industry, and technological engineering.

The second section (about 1km^2) will comprise high-

tech businesses that manufacture value-added goods in such sectors as agriculture, animal husbandry, pomiculture, fish farming, industrial crop cultivation and biogas development.

97. Sinuiju International Economic Park

Located in Sinuiju, North Phyongan Province, this economic park is projected to cover an area of about 40km^2.

It faces Dandong, China, with the 1km-wide section of the Amnok River in between.

The city of Sinuiju has the Pyongyang-Uiju railway line, which branches off into Paengma and Tokhyon lines. It also has Pyongyang-Sinuiju, Sinuiju-Uiju and Sinuiju-Phihyon roads.

The city is home to a trading port, border bridge and international railway station.

The construction of a bridge leading to China is at the last stage of completion and there will be little bottleneck in building the network of international telecommunications.

Machine-building, chemical, textile, footwear, pharmaceutical, food and customer goods industries constitute the buttresses of the city's economy.

The city has a large share in the country's output of consumer goods.

There is a bright prospect of developing Sinuiju into an international metropolis for its favourable geographical location on the Amnok River.

Given an endless stream of tourists at Dandong, the development project involves the construction of pleasure ground and sightseeing area on the shores of the Amnok River, bridges, international airport and bonded harbour, road and railway networks. The economic zone will become an international hub of IT, industry, transport, trade, banking, public welfare services and tourism.

98. Kangnyong International Model Green Park

Located in Kangnyong County, South Hwanghae Province, this green park is projected to cover an area of about 3.5km^2.

It will become an industrial centre for the production and trading of green products.

It is adjacent to the Port of Haeju, and the road and railways passing through the township lead to Pyongyang, Haeju and Nampho.

For its rich marine resources and ecological conditions favourable for aquaculture, the park will set an example in using tidal power, biogas and other sources of renewable energy, developing technology for environmental protection and promoting research into

green industrial technology and the production and processing of aquatic products.

The township of Kangnyong is ideal for the cultivation of sweet potato and other agricultural crops. So it will create a model in establishing the production cycle for crop cultivation and animal husbandry, producing and processing organic agricultural produce and developing tourist service.

99. Jindo Export Processing Park

Located in Waudo District, Nampho, this processing park will cover an area of about 1.8km^2.

It is 40km away from Pyongyang, 4km away from the Port of Nampho, and 2km away from the nearest railway station. Also, it is 11.5km away from the Youth Hero Road between Pyongyang and Nampho.

The Port of Nampho leads to China and Southeast Asia, and Pyongyang and Nampho have a decades-long history of industrial development, especially in machine-building, electronics and consumer goods production. Making effective use of the region's favourable geographical conditions and abundant supply of manpower, the zone will focus on processing imported materials and producing a wide range of products for export purposes.

The development plan includes setting up

businesses on the principle of protecting the environment and saving energy, developing new concept products and industrial sectors, encouraging improvement trade for export, accepting advanced technology from other countries to reenergize local industries and combining improvement trade for export with bonded trade to improve the people's living standards.

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